U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION
CALIFORNIA DIVISION
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 4-100
Sacramento, CA. 95814-4708
August 23, 2005

IN REPLY REFER TO
HDA-CA
Document # 47964

Mr. Will Kempton, Director
California Department of Transportation
1120 N Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Attention: Rachel Falsetti, Transportation Programming, MS-82

Dear Mr. Kempton:

SUBJECT: FY 2004/05 FSTIP Amendment No. 8 – Stanislaus Council of Governments
             (StanCOG)

The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has completed our review of Amendment No. 8
to the StanCOG's 2004/05-2006/07 Federal Transportation Improvement Program (FTIP) that
was submitted by your letter dated August 16, 2005. StanCOG adopted this amendment with
Resolution No. 05-02 on August 10, 2005, approving these program modifications and
reaffirming the conformity of the StanCOG FTIP with the applicable State Implementation Plan
(SIP) for air quality.

This amendment was requested by the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to
modify, delete or add various projects in Stanislaus County. The amendment includes projects
with funding from the Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) program, the State's
State Highway Operation Protection Program (SHOPP), and the Federal Demonstration
Program.

We accept this amendment in accordance with the provisions of 23 CFR Part 450. We find that
this amendment was developed through a continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive
transportation planning process carried out in accordance with the provisions of 23 U.S.C.
section 134, and section 8 of the Federal Transit Act (49 U.S.C. app. §1607). Based on our
review, we find that changes made to the StanCOG FTIP by this amendment do not require new
emissions modeling because they include projects determined to be the types listed in 40 CFR
93.126 & 127 as being exempt from any regional emissions analysis. Therefore, we find this
FTIP to conform to the applicable State Implementation Plan (SIP).

**BUCKLE UP
AMERICA**

This finding has been coordinated with the regional office of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and is provided in accordance with the procedures outlined on the Memorandum of Understanding between the FHWA, California Division, and the Federal Transit Administration (FTA), Region IX, dated July 15, 2004, on Roles and Responsibilities for Multi-mode Amendments. This approval is provided with the understanding that approval of this programming action does not provide a federal eligibility determination for CMAQ funded projects included in this amendment.

With this approval letter, the FHWA and the FTA eliminate formal and administrative amendment programming restrictions related to timely implementation of the River Road bicycle project as described in our letter of June 15, 2005, Subject: 8-Hour Ozone Standard Conformity Determination for the Stanislaus Council of Governments' 2004 Regional Transportation Plan and 2004 Federal Transportation Improvement Program as Amended.

This letter also constitutes approval and inclusion of the StanCOG's FTIP Amendment No. 8 into California's 2004/05 – 2006/07 Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program (FSTIP).

If you have any questions or need further information, please contact Mr. Leigh Levine of the FHWA, California Division office at (916) 498-5034, or Mr. Alex Smith of the FTA, Region IX office at (415) 744-2599.

Sincerely,

/s/ Mayela Sosa

/s/ Leslie T. Rogers

For
Leslie T. Rogers   Gene K. Fong
Regional Administrator   Division Administrator
Federal Transit Administration   Federal Highway Administration

cc: (e-mail)
Lark Downs, StanCOG
Vince Angelino, StanCOG
Bruce Abanathie, StanCOG
Randy Steen, Caltrans - Federal Resources Branch
Ross A. Chittenden, Caltrans - Transportation Programming
Abhijit Bagde, Caltrans - Transportation Programming
Terry Abbott, Caltrans - Office of Local Programs
Rachel Falsetti, Caltrans - Office of Federal Program Management
Dennis Wade, CARB
Karina O'Connor, EPA Region IX
Alex Smith - FTA Region IX
StanCOG 2004 FTIP Binder

LLevine:jf